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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/901,597	07/11/2001	Takahiro Nishiyama	010760	7639

23850 7590 06/18/2003

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EXAMINER

LEE, EDMUND H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1732

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DATE MAILED: 06/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/901,597

Applicant(s)

NISHIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

EDMUND H LEE

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The phrase "at least one of end of the fuel" (lns 3-4) is indefinite because it is idiomatically incorrect.

Clarification and/or correction is required.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 08216278A in view of JP 09239807A. In regard to claim 1, JP 08216278A teaches the basic claimed process including a method for manufacturing a fuel transporting hose (abstract; figs 1-17); extrusion molding an unvulcanized hose having fluororubber as an inner layer with the use of a mandrel (abstract; col 9, lns 4-7; figs 1-17); vulcanizing the unvulcanized hose to form a fuel transporting hose having a fluororubber inner layer (abstract; col 9, lns 4-7; figs 1-17); and forming a fluorine-modified silicone lubricating layer on an inner peripheral surface of the fluororubber inner layer (abstract; figs 1-17). However, JP 08216278A does not teach extrusion molding without the use of a mandrel. JP 09239807A teaches extrusion molding a multilayered hose without using a

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mandrel thereby reducing processing steps (abstract; figs 1-14). JP 08216278A and JP 09239807A are combinable because they are analogous with respect to extrusion molding multilayered hoses. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to extrusion mold the unvulcanized hose of JP 08216278A without the use of a mandrel as taught by JP 09239807A in order to reduce molding complexity. In regard to claims 2-4, JP 08216278A teaches forming the lubricating layer by circulating fluorine-modified silicone lubricant solution inside the fuel transporting hose having the fluororubber inner layer, and then volatilizing solvent from the fluorine-modified silicone lubricant (abstract; figs 1-17); forming the lubricating layer by coating fluorine-modified silicone lubricant on the inner peripheral surface of the fluororubber inner layer, from at least one end of the fuel transporting hose (abstract; figs 1-17); and coating on the inner peripheral surface of the fluororubber inner layer from at least one end of the fuel transporting hose after the fuel transporting hose having the fluororubber inner layer is cut to a shorter length.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. JP 56044643A teaches the well-known concept of extrusion molding a hose without using a mandrel.


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EDMUND H LEE whose telephone number is

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703.305.4019. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY FROM 9AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, RICHARD CRISPINO can be reached on 703.308.3853. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703.305.7718 for regular communications and 703.305.3599 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703.308.0661.


EDMUND H LEE
Examiner
Art Unit 1732
6/13/03

EHL
June 13, 2003